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Memorial of Dr. Jackson.

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A

MEMORIAL

OF

REV. HENRY JACKSON, D.D.,

LATE PASTOR OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH,

NEWPORT, R.I.

COMPILED BY S. W. FIELD.

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The Everlasting Memorial.

UP and away, like the dew of the morning,
Soaring from earth to its home in the sun:
So let me steal away, gently and lovingly,
Only remembered by what I have done.

Needs there the praise of the love-written record,
The name and the epitaph graved on the stone?
The things we have lived for, — let them be our story,
We ourselves but remembered by what we have done.

Not myself, but the truth that in life I have spoken;
Not myself, but the seed that in life I have sown, —
Shall pass on to ages; all about me forgotten,
Save the truth I have spoken, the things I have done.

Bonar.

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Biographical Sketch.

Henry Jackson was born in the city of Providence, R.I., on the 16th of June, 1798. His parents were the Hon. Richard Jackson and Mrs. Abby Jackson of that city. His father was a citizen of marked integrity and prominence, and held various offices of trust and responsibility both in the affairs of the city and State, and also as a representative in Congress. After the necessary preliminary academic training, he entered Brown University in the year 1813, where he remained as student throughout the collegiate course; graduating in the year 1817 with honor. While in the University, his mind became deeply interested in the inquiry of religious truth. While in the Sophomore Class, he resolved to make a public profession of his Christian faith, and, accordingly,

was baptized by the Rev. Dr. Stephen Gano, upon the 3d of December, 1815, and received into the fellowship of the First Baptist Church of Providence. He entered upon the duties of his religious profession with more than usual ardor. Nor was his zeal the mere temporary enthusiasm of a young convert. He resolved, with an earnest spirit of devotion to religious duty, to consecrate himself to the cause of Christianity. For this purpose, he determined to make it the work of his life to preach the gospel of Christ. Hence, in the year 1817, he entered the Theological Seminary at Andover, Mass.; and while a student at that Institution, not content to receive instruction alone, he endeavored in several ways to forward the cause of religion in the surrounding neighborhood. The church to which he belonged, perceiving and approving his gifts, elected him, in the year 1820, to the first or subordinate rank of the ministry, by constituting him a licentiate. His first ministerial labors were in behalf of the colored people in the city of Providence. He raised funds, and built them a meeting-house.

A marked success attended his labors among them. Many were converted.

About two years after this, upon the 11th of March, 1822, at Providence, he married Miss Maria T. Gano, a daughter of his pastor, the Rev. Dr. Gano. That venerable and honored father in Israel, in thus bestowing his daughter, himself performing the marriage-ceremony, gave proof both of his devotedness to religion in permitting a loved child to bear companionship in the trials and sacrifices of a clergyman's life, and of esteem for the subject of our sketch by bestowing upon him his daughter.

Toward the close of the year in which Mr. Jackson was married, upon the 27th of November, 1822, he entered upon the full duties of the ministry by receiving ordination. This event was one of particular interest. Having commenced preaching at Charlestown, Mass., upon the 6th of October of this year, he received a call from that church to become their pastor, which he accepted. Accordingly, an ecclesiastical council was convened ; Mr. Jackson was examined, in conformity with the usual custom ;

and it was unanimously and cordially voted that he should be set apart to the work of the gospel ministry. The sermon upon this occasion was preached by Dr. Gano, from the text, "There was a man sent from God whose name was John." The ordaining prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Sharp ; the charge was delivered by Rev. Dr. Baldwin ; the hand of fellowship was given by Rev. Dr. Wayland ; and the concluding prayer was made by Rev. Mr. Collier. Rev. Messrs. Grafton, Nelson, Davis, and Jacobs, also took part in the services. After his ordination, Mr. Jackson at once entered with zeal upon the duties of his pastorate at Charlestown ; and, both in the temporal and spiritual affairs of the church, his labors were duly rewarded. There were eighty-one communicants when he became pastor ; but, during his ministry there, three hundred and sixty-six additions were made, being a net increase of two hundred and fifty-eight to the church. Of this number, two hundred and thirty-seven were received by baptism. Besides, during this period, the church-edifice was twice enlarged and improved at an aggre-

gate cost of seven thousand dollars ; and the church raised annually more than a thousand dollars for benevolent and missionary purposes. During his pastorate there, moreover, he was instrumental in founding the Charlestown Female Seminary, — an institution which has been largely blessed in female education, and which has afforded gratuitous instruction to many young ladies who were preparing themselves for the work of teaching or missionary labor. Upon the 19th of October, 1836, he resigned his pastorate in Charlestown, after a period of fourteen years.

Having received a call to become pastor of the North Baptist Church at Hartford, Conn., he accepted the invitation ; and upon the 18th of September, 1836, commenced preaching in that place. He was formally installed into the pastoral office upon the 14th of December, the same year. His ministerial work at Hartford was of short duration, being interrupted by severe and dangerous illness ; but, during its continuance, he labored with zeal and success, and two hundred were added to the church, and

a hundred and fifty-eight of that number by baptism, making a net increase of a hundred and ninety additions. He closed his ministerial labors in that place upon the 14th of October, 1838, after a continuance of about two years.

The next settlement formed by Mr. Jackson was at New Bedford, where he became pastor of the First Baptist Church. He accepted the invitation upon the 4th of November, 1838, and upon the 1st of January, 1839, was installed. The church numbered two hundred and thirty-one when he assumed its oversight. During his pastorate, three hundred and ninety-seven were added, two hundred and eighty-five of the number by baptism; making three hundred and seven the net increase. He also baptized, within this period, twenty persons who were added to the church at Nantucket. Besides his duties in the pastoral office in that city, he was engaged in many plans for promoting the welfare of the society and the Redeemer's kingdom. Upon the 19th of October, 1845, after a pastorate of seven years, he resigned his office, and spent a year in rest.

The fourth and last pastorship occupied by Dr. Jackson was in Newport, R.I.; when, upon the 17th of January, 1847, he accepted the call of the Central Baptist Church, and commenced preaching as its first pastor. This church, a branch from the Second Baptist Church of this city, had been recognized upon the 7th of January, with forty-three constituent members. From that time to that of his death, a period of sixteen years, three hundred and seventy persons have been admitted to its fellowship, and of that number a hundred and seventy by baptism. In this charge, as in others, he labored diligently; and although within about a year his strength had somewhat failed, so that the church elected Rev. Mr. Robbins as his colleague, he yet devoted till the very last day of his life unusual personal attention to all the interests of his congregation, even to those of a minute and subordinate character. Thus a Christian warrior, with the armor all upon him, he fell upon the field in the midst of battle. He was faithful unto death. He shall receive the crown of life.

NOTICES OF HIS DEATH.

[From The Christian Secretary, Hartford, Ct.]

A discourse was preached by Rev. Dr. Turnbull, on sabbath morning last, at the North Baptist Church, with special reference to the recent sudden death of the Rev. Henry Jackson, D.D., the former pastor of that church. The sermon was a fitting tribute to the memory of our deceased brother, from the text in Rev. xxii. 14, "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." The theme of the preacher was the blessedness of true religion as illustrated in the useful and happy life, the calm and triumphant death, of the departed. We give our readers substantially that portion of the discourse comprising a biographical sketch of Dr. Jackson.

Dr. Jackson was born in 1798, in Providence, R.I., where also his body is interred. His father, the Hon. Richard Jackson, was a prominent and honored citizen. He entered Brown

University, and, after a successful course of study, graduated in 1817, and since 1828 has been one of the most active and useful of the trustees of that institution. While in college, he gave himself to Christ and his cause, and became a member of the church there, under the faithful ministry of the Rev. Dr. Gano, whose daughter he subsequently married.

His conversion was marked and decisive. At the age of seventeen, his attention was aroused by the terrible disaster at Richmond, Va., — the burning of the theatre there, in which calamity four hundred persons lost their lives. It was this event, too, which produced such an impression upon the mind of Spencer H. Cone, himself a dramatic performer, and which finally induced him to abandon the stage for the work of the ministry. Soon after this event, young Jackson, with some college acquaintances, went to see a play, but was so impressed with a sense of his moral danger, that he rose immediately and left the place. For ten days or a fortnight, he was much distressed by a conviction of his sinfulness. He saw that he had been living a

frivolous, superficial life, and that, in the very depths of his nature, sin had been lodged as a demon of unbelief and selfishness. During this time he sought the house of a colored Christian woman who was occasionally employed in his father's family; and there, under the influence of her teachings, and in answer to her prayers and his own, his soul passed out of darkness into light. His joy was so great, that the husband of this negro mother in Israel "hoped the Lord would keep Master Henry in the body." Here nature and grace, as you see, were marvellously blended; but this happy glow of the first love, after all, was the keynote of all his subsequent life, and was often strikingly illustrated in the boundless activity and joyousness of his career. You remember, when he last preached in this pulpit, with what vigor and gladness he expatiated upon the text, "The Word of God is not bound;" and I myself, sitting behind him, was actually concerned lest he should leap from the pulpit. He only wanted wings to soar beyond the visible diurnal sphere.

After the completion of his theological

studies, he commenced preaching, Oct. 6, 1822, in Charlestown, Mass. He was ordained on the 27th of the following November. His labors there, till Oct. 19, 1836, were crowned with success.

Dr. Jackson was an intimate friend of the Rev. Dr. Davis, whose memory is yet fragrant among us as a man of singularly genial temper, devoted piety, generous disposition, and great usefulness in the Church of Christ. Davis and Jackson were fit companions and co-workers in the "kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ;" for they were as like as two men could possibly be in all the leading elements of their character. When on his death-bed, Davis cried out with a smile of exultation, "I mount!" Jackson was standing near, and, receiving the falling mantle of his ascending friend, soon after became his successor in the First Baptist Church, Hartford. From 1836 to 1839, the brief period of his pastorate here, he enjoyed a glorious work of grace, and received into the church two hundred and ninety-two; the most of them by baptism. He was installed in New Bedford, Jan. 1,

1839; and his ministry there lasted till Oct. 19, 1845.

In January, 1847, he commenced preaching in the Central Baptist Church, Newport, R.I. This church, formed under his immediate care, was recognized Jan. 7, 1847, with forty-three members.

During the period of his forty years' ministry, ending Nov. 27, 1862, thirteen hundred and ninety-six persons were admitted by Dr. Jackson to the fellowship of the churches; eight hundred and seventy of them by baptism. Eight of the number baptized became ordained ministers of the gospel.

"Last sabbath," says the Rev. Henry Robbins, his colleague and successor, "our people gathered around the venerable form of their late beloved pastor to pay the last tribute of respect and affection. Such a scene rarely occurs. Few persons have the power to knit hearts so closely to them. Our altar was consecrated anew by mournful evidences of the singular affection with which the shepherd of the flock was cherished. The place was a Bochim.

Surely 'the memory of the just is blessed.' My love and respect for the people grew under that rain of tears. They appreciated their pastor at his true worth."

And thus we may condense his biography into those brief, pregnant words of holy writ, "He walked with God, and he was not; for God took him."

On the sabbath evening before his death, he handed Mrs. Jackson the following verses, which were also sung at his funeral, touchingly prophetic, as it seems to us, of his sudden transition to his present glorious and blessed state.

"On the banks beyond the stream,
Where the fields are always green,
There's no night, but endless day:
There is where the angels stay.

Flowers of fadeless beauty there;
Trees of life with foliage rare;
Fruits the most inviting grow:
There is where I want to go.

Soon from earth I'll soar away
To the realms of endless day;

Soon I'll join the ransomed throng,
Sing with them redemption's song :
Earthly home, adieu, adieu !
Earthly friends, farewell to you ;
Softly breathe your last good-by ;
Jesus calls me, let me die.

There's no sorrow, pain, nor fear ;
There's no parting farewell tear ;
There's no cloud, no darkness, there :
All is bright and clear and fair.
Hark ! I hear the angels sing ;
Heavenly harpers on the wing
Throng the air, and bid me rise
To the music of the skies.

Pearly gates stand open wide,
Just beyond death's chilly tide ;
There my mansion bright I see ;
There the angels wait for me.
Hallelujah ! Christ has come !
Hallelujah ! I'm just home !
Friends and loved ones, weep no more
Meet me on the other shore."

[From The Christian Watchman and Reflector.]

MANY of our readers will share our grief at the announcement of the sudden death of the Rev. Dr. Jackson of Newport. He was one of the oldest and best-known patriarchs of our denomination in New England, and as widely loved as known. A Baptist by strong convictions, he always maintained the fundamental principles of our faith with firmness and tenacity; while his Christian sympathies embraced every one who loved the Lord Jesus Christ. He served with great diligence and success as pastor at Charlestown and Hartford and New Bedford; and for sixteen years his labors have been blessed to the steady growth of a flourishing church at Newport.

During this period, no pastor in the State has been so thoroughly identified with Baptist history and progress. He was fertile in plans, and untiring in efforts, for the common good. He aimed to make himself acquainted with every pastor in the State, and with the internal con-

dition and prospects of every church. Pastors and people alike found him a warm sympathizer in every trouble, and a wise counsellor. His time and purse were freely given to his brethren ; and many recall with grateful memories kind words and deeds which shed light in a dark hour.

The following minute account of his death is taken from the East Greenwich "Pendulum," whose editor sat by his side in the cars at the time of his death.

He had spent Monday morning, 2d inst., in the city, consulting with a committee on certain matters relating to the Portsmouth Grove Hospital, in which he had taken an extraordinary interest from its establishment. At noon he took the cars, hoping to settle a church difficulty of long standing. From this point the narrative proceeds : —

"With his accustomed pleasant smile he sat down, remarking that he had hurried to reach the cars in season. He immediately recalled the word 'hurried,' and said he came in 'haste ;' that his father had told him that *hurry* signified *con-*

fusion, and that *haste* was the proper word to use. On taking his seat, he took his watch from his pocket, noting the time, and stating that he left Deacon Read's store eighteen minutes previously, and had been down to the steamer 'Perry.' We saw nothing about the doctor that indicated confusion: we saw nothing in his speech or breathing but what appeared natural. The cars left the dépôt at thirty-eight minutes past twelve. We engaged in cheerful conversation for a few minutes, when he remarked that his people in Newport were to have a meeting that evening, and that they would feel disappointed in not meeting him there, but that there would be another meeting on Thursday evening, at which he hoped to be present, and that would do as well. These were his last words. His head fell back, his hands suddenly dropped, he opened his eyes with a slight stare, and immediately closed them. We spoke to him, but received no reply. We spoke louder, but he responded not: he was dead. We called for a physician the moment we discovered his situation; and an army surgeon, who happened to be in the forward car, was soon

at his side. The surgeon laid his hand upon the doctor's heart, and pronounced it a case of disease of the heart, and that the doctor was beyond the reach of human aid. Without a groan or struggle he quietly fell asleep, at a quarter to one o'clock; the train having just pased Olneyville."

FUNERAL-SERVICES.

THE remains of Rev. Dr. Jackson were brought from Providence to Newport on Saturday afternoon, accompanied by many of the relatives and friends of the deceased, and were received at the wharf by a committee from the church, and taken to his residence on Thames Street.

On Sunday afternoon, at two o'clock, the remains were taken to the Central Baptist Church, over which the deceased was pastor, where funeral-services of a deeply-interesting character were performed. Previous to the procession's leaving the house, a prayer was offered by the Rev.

Henry E. Robbins, who has for some time past officiated as Dr. Jackson's colleague; and the pall-bearers consisted of clergymen of different denominations in the city.

The church, which was neatly draped in mourning, was very densely packed, nearly all the other churches being closed. The exercises commenced, soon after the corpse was placed in front of the pulpit, by a voluntary from the choir, which was followed by a chant, "Thy will be done," sung in a most impressive manner. After an invocation, and reading select portions of Scripture, by the Rev. Mr. Malcom, the 117th Psalm was sung by the choir, followed by a very able prayer by the Rev. Mr. Murdock of Boston, which embraced in the most sympathetic and consoling language all the immediate relatives of the deceased.

Then followed an address by the Rev. William Phillips of Providence, occupying something over half an hour in the delivery. It was a brief historical sketch of his ministerial career, and showed how extensive and useful had been his labors in the various gospel-fields in which

he had officiated. His description of his habits, peculiarities, benevolent and genial characteristics, was perfectly natural. He spoke of him just as all who knew him could understand and feel was truthful. After he had concluded, an invitation was given to the several clergymen present to make such remarks as they felt disposed to make on the occasion. The invitation was happily responded to by the Rev. Dr. Balch, who testified to the kind and generous impulses of the lamented deceased. He was followed by the Rev. Prof. Nourse of the Naval Academy, who also spoke of his eminently social and Christian character. Then the Rev. Mr. Livsey of the South Methodist, the Rev. Mr. Adlam of the First Baptist, the Rev. Mr. Murdock of Boston, the Rev. Mr. Malcom of the Second Baptist, and the Rev. H. A. Cooke of Warren, all spoke of him in glowing, eulogistic terms, and of his devotion to the work in which for so many years he had been most earnestly engaged.

After the choir had again sung another selected and appropriate piece, the lid of the casket was removed, and opportunity was offered,

to all who wished, to take a last look of their friend or pastor.

On Monday morning, the remains were returned to Providence; and the funeral-services were solemnized at eleven o'clock in the First Baptist Church. A very large congregation assembled; and the many clergymen and members of other denominations present indicated how deeply felt and wide-spread was the loss of this Christian minister. After the singing of a hymn by the congregation, the services were opened with the reading of the Scriptures by the Rev. Mr. Rhodes of the Stewart-street Baptist Church, and continued with prayer by Rev. Mr. Granger of the Fourth Baptist Church. Rev. Dr. Caswell of Brown University was introduced as the first speaker. "It is no ordinary time," he said, "which has called us together. An honest man, a good Christian, a faithful minister, and a true patriot, has passed away. This large gathering is a spontaneous tribute of the public to public virtue and public excellence. In early manhood our brother 'put on Christ by a good profession before many witnesses;' and

to the end of his course he held fast the profession of his faith. As a man, he was honest, generous, confiding, friendly; as a Christian, he was sincere, earnest, and conscientious. Firm in his convictions of truth and duty, he never wavered in his course. Religion with him was the transforming of the inner man, and moulding it to the image of Christ. He held his opinions firmly; but no man was so catholic, so liberal to all others who differed from him. He held the Roger Williams doctrine of religious liberty.

"But it was as a minister that we may most fitly and most profitably turn to his example; and there, for more than forty years, we have never known him to swerve from the rectitude of his high calling. We have never known him as other than a most exemplary, diligent, faithful, prayerful Christian minister. He was affable and kindly to all. He made many friendships, and created no enmities. In his preaching, there was one great leading element, and that was the cross of Christ. He built his hopes upon the cross, and hid himself behind it."

The speaker alluded in touching terms to the

death of the deceased, so sudden and so unexpected. He said it was as if a voice had reached his mortal ear, saying to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant, come up hither. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." He was ready to go. His work was well done; and his precious example remains for our imitation.

Bishop Clark followed as the second speaker. "Just one week ago," he said, "a few of us were in conference with our departed brother under this very roof. In less than an hour, when we separated, his spirit had entered eternity. How little did those of us who were here then imagine that to-day we should come up to these sacred courts to say the last words over his remains! Never did he seem more genial, more full of life, than he did then. I remember he alluded to a period in his life, when, for a time, his life was thought to be in peril. I could not but think it seemed strange to associate the idea of disease or death with such a frame as his. And when one of his brethren said to him, What shall be done in case one of our number should die to-day, I remember the manner in which our

departed brother met that question ; but none of us dreamed that he would be the victim. And what is there to lament in his death ? — on an errand of mercy, suddenly transported to the presence of the angels, and of that Saviour whom he served so well on earth."

The speaker then sketched some of the more salient points of his character, — those which, he said, none could fail to perceive who had enjoyed the rare favor of his acquaintance. He was a man of high executive ability. His religion was eminently a practical thing ; and, whatever he undertook, he undertook with his whole heart and soul. He never shrank from the most arduous or unremitting labors. He was as genial as he was practical. You felt a strange drawing towards him, as though he had always belonged to your own household. He was a catholic Christian. Earnestly devoted to the peculiar views of his own denomination, he could embrace within his sympathies all who loved the Lord Jesus Christ. He was a man whom all loved just in the degree that they knew him.

It was not a strange thing to be called to his

Master; for he lived with his Master on earth. He leaves to his mourning relatives and friends the best legacy that a man can leave, — the legacy of a good, holy, earnest, useful life; and to-day, with the cherubim and seraphim, and the spirits of just men made perfect, he bows before the throne of the Lamb, thanking him for the grace which redeems him here on earth, and now provides for him a home in heaven.

Rev. Mr. Whiting of the High-street Congregational Church followed with some remarks eulogistic of the deceased. Of an eminent parentage, devoted to the public welfare, he grew up with a lively interest in the concerns of his fellow-men. Earnest and laborious, he was never known to suffer a single public trust to languish in his hands; and he always did with his might whatever was put into his hands to do. He spoke of his character as a minister and a pastor, and spoke words of consolation to the group of mourning relatives and friends.

At the end of the remarks, the concluding prayer was made by Rev. Mr. Spaulding of Warren, and the benediction pronounced by

Rev. Mr. Granger. The congregation then passed slowly by the coffin of the deceased to take a last look of the venerable and familiar features; after which, the friends and relatives entered their carriages, and the long and mournful procession made its way to the "North Burying Ground," where the remains were interred.

RESOLUTIONS.

At a special meeting of the Board of the Rhode-Island Baptist State Convention, held in Providence, March 6, 1863, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted: —

Whereas, The Sovereign of the church has taken to himself by a sudden and startling providence our brother Henry Jackson, D.D., the president of the Rhode-Island Baptist State Convention and of this Board, and one of the oldest pastors in the State: therefore

Resolved, That the Board mourn his loss as the breaking of the strong staff and the beautiful rod, and the removal of a fellow-laborer,

whose place in cheerful and effective service it will be hard to fill; but they cannot forget, even in the hour of bitter grief, to return devout praise to God for giving them during so many years a good and wise man, a sound preacher, a prudent counsellor, a lover of peace and of all good things; one who, like Paul, cared for, and whose praise was in, all the churches; and who, having served his generation well, has entered into rest, leaving behind him the record of a useful and blameless life.

Resolved, That the Board tender their sincere sympathy to the bereaved widow and relatives, in the loss of one whose manly and guileless nature won universal love and confidence in the more public relations of life; and whose kindness and sympathy and cheerfulness in the family circle, the outflow of a genuine piety, enabled him to realize in an uncommon degree the ideal of a Christian home.

Resolved, That, in view of the long and faithful and useful services of our beloved brother to the Convention, the Board feel it incumbent on them to honor his memory by special funeral-services, in which they may officially participate.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH, NEWPORT, R.I.

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take from this life in a sudden and unexpected manner Rev. Henry Jackson, D.D., pastor of the Central Baptist Church : therefore

Resolved, That we, as a church, express our heartfelt sympathy and condolence with our sister-church in her affliction and bereavement ; for we, in our life as a church, have felt the heavy stroke of God's hand in the sudden loss of the lamented Gammell and the beloved Choules, and are therefore more fully able to tenderly sympathize with you in this your great affliction.

Resolved, That we not only offer you our tribute of grief, but that also we offer you, in this the hour of your great sorrow and bereavement, any aid in our power in conducting the sad offices of burial, or any service which we can in any manner render.

Resolved, That our prayers shall ascend that this afflicting dispensation may be over-ruled for

good by the great Head of the church; that God may sustain you with grace and consolation; that, amid all your sorrow, Christ will afford you gracious support; and that the associate and family of your late honored and loved pastor may also receive, with you, divine consolation.

Receive, dear brethren, these expressions of our sympathy as a token of our desires and prayers that God may sustain you, and that all of us may at last be received into that kingdom where our loved ones in Christ shall be restored to us. In behalf of the church, very truly and affectionately yours,

CHAS. H. MALCOM, *Pastor.*

Deacons. — B. Marsh, J. C. Barker, Henry B. Hazard, Henry H. Fay, William Messer.

S. W. BUTLER, *Clerk.*

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE-ISLAND BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION,

The Committee on Obituaries made the following highly-eulogistic and appreciative report

in regard to the death of Rev. Dr. Jackson, the former president of the convention.

The messenger of God, who comes to all, has visited this Convention. Henry Jackson is no more. Within a brief two months' close of his ninth year's presidency of this body, and upon duties legitimately connected with its work, he suddenly fell asleep. No interests were more dear to his heart than those of this Convention. And, if the redeemed are present in earthly places, his spirit is with us to-day. The Board immediately met to express their grief at this sad news; and this body has adopted their minutes, and placed them on record as its own.

The Convention only expresses anew its appreciation of his worth. We bring back the hearty grasp and cordial welcome which evinced his genial disposition. We recall his earnest but cheerful piety, before which no gloom could live; for his very presence was living denial of the charge of gloom made against religion. We hear him again earnestly and eloquently preaching Christ to the lost. We see crowds coming up during his forty years' ministry in different

cities of New England, and testifying to his great faithfulness in the ministry of reconciliation.

Nor these alone do we remember. His country he loved. And he loved Rhode Island and its institutions of learning; and the soul-liberty on which it was founded, he intensely loved; and this Convention, which fosters the feebler religious interests of the State. It was his delight to visit and to counsel these churches, to encourage their ministers; and in his death he left them a generous bequest, which will come into the hands of this body, for which, in years to come, many a heart will have occasion to bless the name of our deceased brother.

We have lost a Father and a Friend. And as we thus recall the positions of trust which he has held, and all the estimable qualities of his character; as we look upon him ascending to heaven, — every heart of ours exclaims, "My Father, my Father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof." We catch his descending mantle. We will bear with us from this house the memories of the past, and we will

seek to make our own the genial kindness, the pure patriotism, the deep piety, the earnest ministry, and the zeal in the cause of his Master, of Henry Jackson.

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, NEWPORT.

AT a meeting of the church, held at the close of the service sabbath afternoon, March 15, 1863, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted: —

Whereas, It has pleased our heavenly Father, in his mysterious providence, to remove from us by sudden death our late revered and beloved pastor, Rev. Henry Jackson, D.D.: therefore

Resolved, That we desire to put on record our profound sense of the goodness of God in giving to us in the weakness of our infancy so noble a man, so sincere and eminent a Christian, so wise and faithful a pastor, to be our leader and guide.

Resolved, That to his liberality, and to his affectionate and sagacious watch-care and zeal, unremittingly exercised in our behalf, both in temporal and spiritual matters, from the beginning

until the day of his lamented death, we owe, under God, all that we have attained as a Church of Christ.

Resolved, That we tenderly sympathize with his devoted wife, our dearly-beloved sister, Mrs. Maria T. Jackson, his efficient co-laborer for our good, and pray that the God of all grace and consolation will comfort her in an affliction which has filled our own homes with mourning, and our hearts with sorrow only less poignant than her own.

Resolved, That we tender to his only surviving sister, Miss Phebe Jackson, whose interest in our welfare, expressed during so long a period in words and deeds, we gratefully acknowledge, our Christian condolence in her irreparable loss, praying that Jesus, of whom she has spoken so often and so sweetly to us, may guide her by the skilfulness of his hand to the rest into which our beloved pastor and our sainted dead have entered, toward which we press our pilgrim way, where the redeemed "hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat: for the Lamb which is in the

midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

Resolved, That the clerk be, and hereby is, directed to send copies of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to Mrs. Maria T. Jackson and Miss Phebe Jackson.

Resolved, That the clerk be, and hereby is, directed to enter the foregoing preamble and resolutions upon the church records.

GEO. W. SWINBURN,
Church Clerk.

CHARLESTOWN, March 15, 1863.

Dear Sister Maria T. Jackson, — At a meeting of the First Baptist Church, held on Friday evening, March 6, on motion of Brother B. Waldo Edmands, it was voted that Deacon George W. Little and Brother William Fosdick be chosen as a committee to prepare some words expressive of our sympathy for our bereaved sister, Maria T. Jackson, wife of our former pastor, Rev. Henry Jackson, and to place upon our records something expressive of the love and reverence we

have for his memory, and the grief we feel for his loss. The Committee presented the following at a meeting of the church, after service on Sunday, March 15, which was accepted by the church; and it was voted that a copy thereof be sent by the church to you, and also that the same be recorded upon the records of the church, as follows: —

The First Baptist Church, Charlestown, desire to express their grief in learning of the sudden death of their dear Christian brother and beloved former pastor, Rev. Henry Jackson, who is so cherished and revered among us; and to express the most tender pity and sympathy in this hour of sadness and bereavement for his equally loved companion and wife, who was his most faithful and devoted helpmeet while with us. May "the Lord hear thee, dear sister, in the day of trouble; the God of Jacob defend thee, send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion"! We will pray for thee, that thy faith fail not, and that the grace you have so long trusted may be "sufficient for thee" in this hour of trial.

We review with gratitude the ministrations of our dear departed brother during his pastorate for more than fourteen years in the early history of this church and of his ministry. *His genial nature, his cheerfulness, his enterprise, his perseverance, his sympathy, his charity, his devotion, his piety, his success,* are all attested by the records of the church and by all who knew him; *and many are they who bless his memory:* and still the wave of his influence will flow on, and flow evermore. We think, too, of the happy spirits of the just, who had gone before him, who loved him, and who doubtless waited for and welcomed him, when "God took him;" for he was as it were translated, so tenderly and gently was he wafted to the "shining shore," where he has received the blessed benediction, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." May it be ours to emulate his example, that we, too, may receive his reward!

In behalf of the First Baptist Church, Charlestown, and with the assurance of our deep personal sympathy.

GEORGE W. LITTLE,
WILLIAM FOSDICK, } *Committee.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWTON THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION.

MARCH 3, 1863.

THIS Committee, having heard with profound grief of the death, on the 2d instant, of the Rev. Henry Jackson, D.D., of Newport, R.I., are impelled, both by Christian affection and by official duty, to do more than make a record of the afflictive event.

Dr. Jackson was one of the founders of the Newton Theological Institution ; was active and efficient in procuring from the legislature of Massachusetts its act of incorporation, and was from its origin (in 1825) a member of its Board of Trustees In all the affairs of the Institution he invariably manifested a wise and an intelligent interest ; and he is entitled to be reckoned among the foremost of its friends. In its earlier history, as Secretary of the Trustees, and in other relations, he performed much personal service for the promotion of its welfare ; and, as its necessities required, he contributed generously to its treasury. He took enlarged views of the

importance of such an institution, and never faltered in its support.

The committee, in supplying this testimonial, are happy in the belief that Dr. Jackson passed through his ministry of more than forty years with a purity and a fidelity eminently creditable to himself, to his sacred profession, and to the Christian denomination of which he was both a pillar and a light.

Ordered, That a copy of this minute, signed by the Chairman and Secretary, be sent to Mrs. Jackson, and also that a copy be communicated to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting.

BARON STOW, *Chairman.*
WM. A. BOWDLEAR, *Secretary.*

FEMALE MITE SOCIETY, NEWPORT.

IN accordance with a vote passed at the annual meeting of the Female Mite Society, April 15, 1863, we offer the following resolutions: —

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from us by death our beloved pastor and father in the gospel, Rev. Henry Jackson, D.D., to whose untiring labors and fostering care this Society chiefly owes its existence and its present prosperity ; and while in this sad bereavement we feel that a heavy affliction is resting upon us as a society and as a church, and knowing full well the deep anxiety and watchful care he ever felt over the feeble churches of this State, we feel that surely a father in Israel has fallen, and that his loss to the Rhode-Island Baptist State Convention is irreparable :

Resolved, That this Society tender to our bereaved Sister Jackson, and also to our Sister Phebe Jackson, their sincere sympathy, praying that He who has sustained them thus far in their severe affliction may still continue to comfort their sorrowing hearts, and prepare them for more extended usefulness in this Zion of our God.

YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, NEWPORT.

Whereas, God, the Sovereign of the universe, has, in his infinite love and all-wise and inscrutable providence, suddenly removed from us our dearly-beloved pastor: therefore

Resolved, That, as members of this Society, we do most humbly acknowledge the hand that has stricken us, and submissively exclaim, "Thy will, O Lord, be done!"

Resolved, That, in the death of him whom we all fondly loved, we deeply mourn the loss of a pastor beloved, a spiritual father, a counsellor, and emphatically a friend.

Resolved, That we will, by the grace of God, emulate his example, following in his footsteps so far as he followed Christ; for when he was with us in the earthly tabernacle, like his Master, he "went about doing good," rejoicing with those who did rejoice, and weeping with those who wept: that we will treasure up the words of truth which he has so continually and faithfully dispensed unto us so many years, and heed

the sound counsel he has so freely and untiringly given us as a sympathizing friend.

Resolved, That we will endeavor to wait before the altar, offering up earnest, devout prayer that the Holy Spirit may descend, and bless this dispensation to the spiritual good of the church, and to the awakening of sinners, bringing them from death to life, from unrest to rest eternal, to the honor of Him who lived, suffered, and died for the redemption of a lost and ruined world.

Resolved, That we tender to our bereaved sister, the widow of our departed and endeared pastor, our sincere sympathy, assuring her, as Christians, we feel that our loss lies next and very near to hers; that we will ever hold in sweet and grateful remembrance the heart which ever mingled its warm, sympathetic pulsations with ours, and united them as one; and the hand that pointed us to the "Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world," and which led us down into the baptismal grave, will ever be held in fond remembrance; that we will, God helping us, strive to keep our "Light-house" in

view, so as to "walk in the light," till we shall have crossed safely "over the river," and entered the haven of rest, the port of peace, and united with the redeemed of the Lamb: "and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Resolved, That we tender, also, our sympathy to our sister, Miss Phebe Jackson, in this the hour of her bereavement, assuring her, too, that her sorrows are our sorrows; and with her we will cast our sorrows upon Him who has invited us to come unto him, that we might find rest to our souls.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to our sisters, Mrs. Jackson and Miss Phebe Jackson.

In behalf of the Young Men's Missionary Society of the Central Baptist Congregation.

WALTER B. SIMMONS, *President.*
SAM'L I. CARR, *Secretary.*

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

MEMORIAL SERMON ON THE LIFE AND CHARACTER OF THE REV. DR. HENRY JACKSON. — The First Baptist meeting-house was well filled last evening upon the occasion of the delivery of a discourse before the Baptist State Convention, in commemoration of the lamented Dr. Jackson, by the Rev. Baron Stow, D.D., of Boston. After the introductory devotional exercises, the reverend gentleman announced as the foundation of his discourse the fourth verse of the eleventh chapter of Hebrews: "He, being dead, yet speaketh." Briefly alluding to the circumstances attending the utterance of the text, he proceeded to show therefrom that dead men speak, and continue to speak for a long period. The voice of the good man is never hushed. He has a perpetual life in a prolonged influence. While living, he speaks by what he is; after death, he speaks by what he was and what he has done. Thus men continue vocal, though their bodies have mouldered to dust, and their souls

long since sought rest in the bosom of the Father.

Deducing thence some pertinent practical lessons, the preacher proceeded to speak of him whose eminently Christian character was to be the theme of the memorial discourse. He gave a sketch of his life appropriate to the occasion, claiming for him none of those remarkably salient points usually regarded as important in biographical history, but the possession of a full, rounded character, without any special development to be seen at a distance. His public services were made up of ten thousand various labors, without any especially prominent work. The genuineness of his conversion was proved by forty-eight years of an eminently godly life. During his pastoral ministrations, he had received 1,395 persons into the church, 866 of whom he baptized himself; he attended 976 funerals, and officiated at 626 marriages. By the indefinite detail of labor involved in these statistics of his ministerial life, our departed brother, being dead, yet speaketh. He possessed rare executive ability, and was an organizer of

work for himself and others. The Charleston Female Seminary, the Newton Theological Seminary, and the Northern Baptist Education Society, were cited as institutions that greatly profited by his labor; while in this State many a feeble and discouraged church will remember with gratitude the hopeful, energetic work of him who in practice, and by fraternal recognition, was the bishop of the Baptist churches of Rhode Island.

As a preacher, Dr. Jackson was evangelical, spiritual, and faithful; entering the pulpit not for self-exhibition, but for the proclamation of the gospel. As a pastor, he had few equals. He loved that department of his work: it was suited to his tastes and temperament, and he made it contribute largely to his success. His pastoral visits were made occasions for inquiry into the spiritual condition of his parishioners, and the presentation of the claims of personal religion. The children of his flock knew him, and never fled his presence. In church-discipline he was mild and gentle, but inflexibly firm. His pastoral successors, and the churches, have spoken of his happy influence in this important particular

The reverend speaker feelingly alluded to his happy domestic relations, to his genial personal qualities, that were so suggestive of a cheerful piety, rendering him buoyant, hopeful, joyous; referred to the abundant testimony borne in his behalf by his brethren and friends, and closed by picturing the departed saint in heaven, enjoying a happy re-union with his companions who had gone before, and, though dead, yet speaking to those who remain, "Be faithful unto death, and then come up hither."

EXTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENCE.

March 7, 1863.

My dear Sister, — My heart quivered when I saw in the Philadelphia papers a notice of the sudden death of your noble husband. On the first of this month I received a long letter from him, full of precious Christian sentiments, and telling me how busy he was with the United-States Hospital on one hand, and the church on the other, but that he should soon send a parcel for the Historical Society. and sent the

letter "merely as a harbinger, that you may know I am about it."

But *his* hand will never send that parcel. That Master, in whose blessed service he had spent *an entire life*, was even then about to promote him to membership in the "general assembly."

Yours in the great tie,

HOWARD MACOLM.

APRIL 23, 1863.

MRS. DR. JACKSON. *Dear Madam*, — It was with unfeigned sorrow I received a few days ago, in this distant part of the sea, the intelligence of the sudden death of your late beloved and venerated husband.

My recollections of Newport, and of my fraternal intercourse with its clergy, will forever remain a *green spot* in the field of the past. Very much did they all endear themselves to me ; and I can truly say, that the courtesies extended to me, a stranger, by your lamented husband, laid me under obligations that shall ever be gratefully remembered.

And there is one consideration that especially

endeared Dr. Jackson to my heart: he was the indefatigable friend of those "who go down to the sea in ships." He loved the men of the sea; and it was a sweet privilege to attend, as I often did, that delightful monthly meeting in behalf of sailors, which was held in his lecture-room, and which his zeal and tact rendered so interesting.

Often, often, has my heart wandered back to that meeting, especially since my home has been on the restless wave.

Amid the perils of the storm, or amid the tedious hours of the calm, it is sweet for the Christian mariner to know that groups of Christians, such as that which gathers in the Central Church, are praying for us, and seeking for us the grace and protection of Him who said to the tempest on Gennesaret, "Peace, be still."

With sentiments of Christian regard,

Yours truly,

D. C. Judkin.

March 8, 1863.

Dear Sister Jackson, — Truly it may be said of him, "He walked with God, and was not; for

God took him," —a translation in which the bitterness of death was unknown, and never to be tasted. Few men ever cheered the hearts of others with the kindness of their own more than he did, or more fully exemplified, in their life and conversation, the gospel they were called to preach.

Many hearts share in this bereavement; and many will exclaim, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof!" Long and heartily have many of us cherished for each of you the affectionate regard due to our faithful and beloved pastor and wife; affectionately, during what remains of life to us, shall we cherish his memory.

Yours in affliction and in the hope of the gospel,

LUCY S. GRINNELL.

MAY 11, 1863.

Dear Sister Jackson, — Our interview in August, when he made his last call at my house, and from thence went direct to the dépôt, has been often spoken of by us before his death, and

more frequently since. He was instrumental, during his ministry among us, of lifting me out of a low, depressed state of mind, and guiding my feet, as I trust, into better paths than I had ever before trodden; and I have a thousand times thanked God that he was permitted to be my pastor.

How frequently do his counsels come up in my mind! It was his love for and devotion to the cause of the Master, which made him so lovely to Christians, and his genial spirit that so endeared him to the community.

Yours, in Christian bonds of affection,

LUTHER C. HEWINS.

MARCH 26, 1863.

My dear afflicted Friend, — My first remembrances of him go back to the time when he accompanied your father in a journey to Hudson, and preached in the morning of the Sabbath.

His youthful appearance, his appropriate text (Gal. i. 22, 23), his experimental method of treating it, his deep emotion, and his affecting appeals to the young, I cannot forget.

I had never before seen or heard any one of his youthful age in the pulpit; and how far it may have influenced my own early entrance on the work of the ministry I know not; but I have no doubt it was an encouragement to me even then. How much more his subsequent friendship (since 1825) encouraged, corrected, aided, and comforted me!

Yours in Christ,

J. Newton Brown.

March 8, 1863.

My dear Friend, Mrs. Jackson, — The announcement of your sudden bereavement was read by me with a very sad interest. Ever since 1817 I had numbered your excellent husband among my chief friends. After my removal to Newton, in 1826, I was always sure to find him interested in the service to which he had united with other ministers and Christian brethren in inviting me; he was ready to counsel and aid in reference to it, and always manifested a truly fraternal regard for me, and solicitude for my personal well-being. The last time I had the happi-

ness of an interview with him, at the anniversary of the institution, in June, 1862, he showed the same undiminished interest in my personal affairs.

His inquiries and remarks on that occasion impressed me deeply by their affectionate character. And what he manifested to me I doubt not corresponded to his habitual spirit towards all with whom Divine Providence brought him into relations of friendship.

I am, truly yours,

H. J. Ripley.

March 16, 1863.

Very dear Sister Jackson, — His last visit to us was very extraordinary. His whole being seemed animated by the atmosphere of heaven: the breezes of the celestial city fanned his soul; an unwonted energy seemed to inspire all his words and actions. His visits and labors were most abundant; and the whole city, wherever he went, seemed moved with the impulse of holy communion as with a heavenly visitant. Especially was it a season of inexpressible joy to his old

flock in the First Baptist Church. Not a ripple in the smooth stream of reciprocal love. As was truly said, and with deep emotion, by our pastor, Rev. Dr. Turnbull, "The old pastor of the flock has come, and has brought the Master with him;" and all hearts in the large assembly seemed to respond a hearty amen. He seemed to be doing his last work. As a body, the church will never forget his sermons, his exhortations, his prayers, and the sweet mutual communion.

Affectionately, &c.,

J. C. Robins.

REMINISCENCES.

Extract from the Annual Sermon before the Narragansett Association, by Rev. William Fitz.

As we review the year since our last session, we cannot forget that one of the most efficient members of this body has been removed from us. His zeal in the organization and prosperity of this association, his affectionate interest in whatever promoted its welfare, will link his name, as in letters of gold, with its early history.

He was active without being obtrusive. He was loved for his goodness of heart, which shone from his cheerful countenance. The pledges which he gave to us as he left us a year ago, just before the hour of adjournment, he continued to fulfil until, with his armor on, he passed from the labors of earth to the rewards of heaven. We miss him; and his memory is fragrant among us.

HENRY JACKSON.

BY REV. SAMUEL W. FIELD.

It is nearly nine years since this good servant of Christ passed suddenly to his home in heaven. We received the sad intelligence when experiencing the hardships of camp-life at Newport News, on the James River, immediately opposite the scene of conflict between the little "Monitor" and the rebel ram "Merrimack." It was our sad duty to inform several men of our regiment, who were members of his church, that the loved pastor and counsellor had gone from an earthly warfare to his heavenly crown. And sad news it was to them. He had in his church a

band of young men called "The Praying Band." Some of them were in our regiment. They did not lay aside their religion when they became soldiers, but, carrying out the principles in which they had been affectionately and faithfully instructed, maintained a consistent Christian life amid the rough duties and hardships of camp-service. It was often my privilege to be with them at tent prayer-meetings. A noble Christian man and brave soldier was Sergeant Pullen, now gone to join his much-loved pastor.

Henry Jackson — how much there was in his person and character to love! His noble form, his open, cordial face, were attractive and winning: there was nothing about him repulsive. His manners were bland, condescending, and affectionate. Everybody received a greeting. He carried sunshine and joy wherever he went. His presence in the street was a social illumination. There was light in the gloomiest dwelling when he entered. With a warm paternal embrace he gathered children in his arms; and the touch of his hand was a benison. He seemed to take everybody into his great heart; and its last

throb of love was so constraining, it is no wonder it burst. It was fit such a man should die *out of his heart.* It was the proper outlet of his soul. The gates of it had been swung open so often to admit others, and whom he crowded in, as did the messengers to the King's supper, by heavenly compulsion, it was no wonder the hinges were so worn, they snapped so suddenly to let his soul out for a wider sphere, and to attain functions that would not tire or wear out.

We well remember our impressions of him as we first saw him, years ago, surrounded by a band of Rhode-Island pastors, all of whom, like him, have finished their course. They were all unlike each other; but all, in their peculiar individualism, strong men, and nobly filled the positions they each occupied. Though dead, we love them. Memory holds in strong, reverential, and fraternal embrace the names and characters and labors of Bradford, Miner, Granger, Choules, and Jackson. They all died in their prime. They seemed never more fit for active service than when called to put off their armor. They were ripe men, rich in experience and by study;

and that which seemed to be their best qualification for a greater usefulness than ever achieved, we see, now, was their meetness for heaven. Adorned with fruitfulness, they fell.

When the soldier in the fulness of his strength, and with his armor on, in the fight goes down, that hour of his sacrifice is the fittest crowning hour: so was it with them. We recall with sad pleasure the group in the days of their activity. We cannot, we would not, forget them. Many hearts still yearn in silence for them; and their influence, intangible and seemingly gone, is with us, and appears in the fruits gathered by their successors. It is found in the elevation of character and enlightenment of minds with whom they came in contact. The smile of their faces beams on us still, and brightens our way to them; and their living words cheer us as our feet near the land they have so long dwelt in.

The subject of our special notice, the last of the group to leave us, had a transition swifter than Elijah's chariot. Surrounded by his brethren, yet they had not time to say, "My father, the chariot of Israel and the horsemen

thereof." In a moment, he passed from mortal sight, in an invisible chariot, that left no track to mortal vision ; but the golden gates of heaven opened for its occupant, and loving, kindred spirits welcomed him. With no fierce wrestlings with disease or torturing pain, as those who preceded him were called to experience, he bounded to his throne and to life eternal. The closing part of his will is characteristic of the man.

"I have hereunto set my hand and seal, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom I confess before men, and in whom I trust for eternal life ; believing his blood, and his blood alone, can atone for sin, and that in heaven its saving merits will be sung by the church redeemed, in the song of Moses and the Lamb, forever : and to him I commit the keeping of my soul in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator, holding myself obedient to good government and wholesome law and order, until my change come. Amen."

MURAL TABLET

In the Central Baptist Church, Newport.

Rev. Henry Jackson, D.D.,
Born June 16, 1798,
Fell asleep March 2, 1863,
Aged 65 years.

A good man, a wise counsellor, a faithful friend, a judicious and affectionate pastor, an earnest preacher of the gospel of reconciliation through the blood of a crucified Saviour, a living exemplification of the power of the sublime truths which he taught to clear the heart, and inspire the soul with a lofty devotion to duty toward God and men.

Ordained Nov. 27, 1822. He was pastor, successively, of churches in Charlestown, Mass., Hartford, Conn., New Bedford, Mass., and Newport, R.I.

He was often called to posts of responsibility in the various educational and missionary organizations of the denomination with which he was connected, and died in the presidency of the

Rhode-Island Baptist State Convention, for whose success he labored with untiring zeal.

The church he served from the date of their organization (in 1847) till the day of his lamented death have caused this tablet to be placed as an expression of gratitude to God for this gift to them of one who so wisely and tenderly watched over their material and spiritual interests, and, with the divine blessing, led them from a feeble infancy to a vigorous maturity. Mourning as children for a venerated and beloved father, they consecrate this marble to his memory.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." — Rev. xiv. 13.

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